

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Harmony Baptist Association,
HELD WITH
New Providence Church,
October 24th, 25th and 26th, A. D. 1880.

— 0 —
OFFICERS:

T. E. MORRIS,.....MODERATOR.
A. J. COCKROFT,.....CLERK AND TREASURER.



JACKSON, MISS.:
THE BAPTIST RECORD PRINT.
1880.

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Harmony Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

New Providence Church,

October 24th, 25th and 26th, A. D. 1880.

OFFICERS:

T. E. MORRIS,.....MODERATOR.
A. J. COCKROFT,.....CLERK AND TREASURER.



JACKSON, MISS.:

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE BAPTIST RECORD.
1880.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

Order of Business—J. H. Hickman, and W. P. Wallace.

Nominations—D. A. Ellington, W. I. Phillips, and J. L. Shackelford.

State of Religion—J. N. Newbern, J. N. Barrett, and W. W. Stewart.

Spiritual condition of the Blacks—A. J. Cockroft, J. F. Biggart and J. T. Massey.

Sunday-schools—D. A. Ellington, and J. H. Hickman.

Missions—E. T. Dendy, T. J. Denson, and J. C. McBeth.

Publications—R. E. Melvin, W. D. Gross, and E. S. Johnson.

Ministerial Education and Miss. College—A. C. Mason, W. W. Thomas, and E. J. McKay.

Obituaries—R. G. Barrett, Thos. Lockala, and W. D. Gross.

Queries and Requests—R. E. Melvin, A. C. Mason, and W. J. Miles.

Finance—Thos. Lockala, J. H. Hickman, and W. P. Wallace.

Correspondence—W. S. Rushing, E. T. Barrett, and G. P. Brown.

MINUTES

OF THE

Harmony Baptist Association.

FIRST DAY.—MORNING SESSION.

NEW PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH, }
LEAKE COUNTY, MISS., }
October 24th, 1880. }

The HARMONY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION met to-day in her Thirty-first Annual Session pursuant to adjournment. The Association was called to order by the chairman, Elder T. E. Morris, at 10 o'clock, and the exercises duly opened with prayer by Elder R. E. Melvin.

Bros. W. S. Rushing and R. E. Melvin were appointed to read the letters from the churches. There were seventeen read and the names of the delegates enrolled.

The body proceeded to the election of officers. Bros. Walne and Martin were appointed to take the votes, and report the result of the election, whereupon, Eld. T. E. Morris was announced as Moderator, and A. J. Cockroft as Clerk and Treasurer. The Moderator elect, after a few appropriate remarks, took his seat.

Called for petitionary letters asking for membership in the Association. One was presented and read, (from Landmark church) and a committee consisting of Bros. R. E. Melvin,

W. S. Rushing, and D. A. Ellington, was appointed to examine the Articles of Faith of said church, and her eligibility for membership, and report this evening.

The Introductory Sermon was now preached by Eld. T. E. Morris, from Acts, 24:25. After which, a committee on Devotional Exercises was appointed, consisting of R. E. Melvin, H. Collier, and T. J. Denson, together with the pastor and deacons of this church. The body then adjourned one hour for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body was called to order by the Moderator. The exercises began with singing, and a prayer by Eld. Wm. McMurtray.

The report on the petitionary letter from Landmark Baptist church was called for, and the committee made the same, stating that said church was sound in her Articles of Faith, thereupon, on motion, said church was received, and her delegates, brethren D. G. Johnson, and Eld. A. C. Mason, were welcomed to seats, and their names enrolled.

Called for corresponding messengers from other Associations, and the following brethren were received, and the right hand of christian fellowship extended them by the Moderator, and they were welcomed to seats in the body. The corresponding messengers were as follows:

Kosciusko—Eld. W. P. Donnell, and Bro. James Smith.

Central—Elds. T. J. Walne, M. T. Martin, and Wm. McMurtray.

On motion, Eld. M. T. Martin was granted privilege to speak in behalf of his paper, the "*Baptist Record*," published in Jackson, Miss.

The following brethren were appointed as messengers to other Associations, to-wit:

Kosciusko—R. G. Barrett, D. A. Ellington, A. J. Cockroft, H. Collier, and R. E. Melvin.

Louisville—W. S. Rushing.

Central—R. G. Barrett, A. J. Cockroft, and D. A. Ellington.

Springfield—T. E. Morris, T. J. Denson, D. G. Johnson, and A. C. Mason.

Choctaw—W. S. Rushing, and A. J. Cockroft.

Yazoo—T. E. Morris, R. E. Melvin, A. J. Cockroft, and R. G. Barrett.

The Association adjourned until Monday morning, at 8:30 o'clock.

—o—
SABBATH EXERCISES.

The Brethren T. J. Walne, and M. T. Martin, the ministers appointed by committee on Religious Exercises, filled the stand on Sabbath. Eld. Walne, preached at 11 o'clock, A. M., and Eld. Martin, at 3 o'clock, P. M. Both sermons were well received and highly appreciated. The former preached from Acts, 1st chapter 8th verse, and the latter from 116th, Psalm and 12th and 13th verses.

—o—
SECOND DAY.

MONDAY, Oct., 26th, 1880.

The house was called to order by the Moderator, and the exercises began with singing and prayer by Eld. Walne.

The committee previously appointed made the following reports, to-wit:

On Order of Business.

We, your committee on Order of Business, would recommend that the Association proceed with her regular business as heretofore.

Respectfully submitted,
R. G. BARRETT, Chairman.

Adopted.

On Nominations.

We, your committee on Nominations, submit the following report: The Executive Board for next year shall consist of the ministers in this Association, who shall hold their membership, *ex officio*, and the following laymen: W. S. Cockroft, J. N. Barrett, J. P. Spinks, W. W. Thomas, E. T. Barnett, E. J. McKay, W. J. Miles, W. R. Lacey, J. C. McBeth, W. R. Graves, J. H. Hickman, T. B. Blailock, T. J. Denson, D. G. Johnson, W. W. Stewart, H. Collier, D. Casper, and T. G. Ward. We would further recommend that each church be requested to appoint one, in addition to the ones above named, making two laymen from each church, members of the Board.

Moreover, we would recommend that W. S. Rushing preach the next Introductory Sermon, and A. J. Cockroft, alternate.

Adopted.

D. A. ELLINGTON, Chairman.

On State of Religion.

We, your committee, find some of the churches highly favored with the blessings of God, and some in a cold and languishing condition, asking the prayers of this body. Let us take courage and thank God that His spirit has not been withdrawn from us.

Respectfully submitted,

J. N. NEWBERN, Chairman.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, and the proceedings began by singing, and prayer by brother E. T. Dendy.

The following reports of Committees appointed, were then called for and submitted:

On Spiritual Condition of the Blacks.

We, your Committee on Condition of the Blacks, would make the following report:

That whereas, a large proportion of the members of the colored churches seem to have such a low standard of morals, and so underrate the christian duty of walking circumspectly and maintaining a spotless character;

Therefore, we urge upon our ministers the importance of preaching to them as often as possible, so as to store their minds with a clear conception of this special subject—many of them being so willing and anxious to be taught.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. COCKROFT, Chairman.

Report on Sunday Schools.

Bro. Moderator: We your Committee on Sunday Schools would report the following:

We regret to find so few of our churches sustaining Sunday Schools. We would urge upon the churches the importance of organizing Sunday Schools at as early a day as practicable. We believe that Sunday Schools, properly conducted, are of incalculable benefit to the children, and also the members of the church who may attend. We further recommend, that no books be used except those that are Baptistie, and that all the literature be exclusively Baptistie.

Respectfully submitted,

D. A. ELLINGTON, Chairman.

Adopted.

Report on Missions.

Bro. Moderator: Your Committee on Missions would submit the following:

1. The work of missions is the work of the church. Christ has commissioned the church to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," and the promise of Christ to be with His church "alway, even to the end of the world," is conditioned upon the faithful performance of this work. No church need expect the Spirit of Christ to continue with her, if she refuse or neglect to carry out the commission to preach the gospel to those who have it not. In fact, no church can have any claim to be a church of Christ, if she persistently refuse to do the work Christ has given her to do, and sooner or later that church will cease to exist.

2. The work of Foreign Missions should have a large place in the minds of our brethren, and should receive liberal con-

tributions from all our churches. We, therefore, urge all our Pastors to bring this subject before our churches, and take up collections for sending the gospel to the heathen.

3. The State Mission Board is doing a grand missionary work within the territory of our State Convention. During the past conventional year, twenty-five missionaries and evangelists were employed by that Board. These missionaries baptized 300 persons; received by letter, 63; restored to church fellowship, 26; constituted 5 churches and 8 Sunday Schools, and built two houses of worship, and repaired 4. Over \$7,000 was expended by the Board in mission work.

The work of the Board is constantly growing. Over thirty Associations are now in active co-operation with the Board, and \$15,000 is the amount proposed to be raised the present conventional year, for State missions. We urge all our churches to make liberal contributions to the Board.

If there is inviting missionary ground in this Association, (and we believe there is) we may rely upon this Board to cultivate this field, if it is possible for them to do so.

In conclusion, we would impress upon the Association the imperative obligations resting upon us to prosecute, with all our might, the great work of preaching the gospel to the destitute, both at home and abroad.

Respectfully submitted,

E. T. DENDY, Chairman.

Adopted.

Report on Publications.

Bro. Moderator: Your Committee report: That the character of any people will be what the literature of that people make it. A people, old or young, who can read, will read; and so surely as *company* makes character, and to the same extent, so surely does literature make character; hence, the power of the press.

With the secular press we, as a people, have nothing to do; the religious press is a power for good to our people, in proportion to the extent that it is influenced by the Spirit of Christ, and its productions brought to bear upon the mind.

Of the many excellent denominational periodicals of our country, our limits will not permit us to speak, further than to say of our adopted organ, the *Baptist Record*, we cannot afford to do without it. As Mississippi Baptists, our use for a

religious newspaper, is Mississippi Baptist news. Whatever may be the merits of other journals, the *Record* is the paper that informs us of our own working.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. MELVIN, Chairman.

Report on Ministerial Education and Mississippi College.

The benefits derived by the student from a course of training in school are not so much the information acquired as the mental power gained by a systematic process of intellectual development. He who has gone through a course of discipline has, when he comes out of school, in reality only learned *how* to study. A more fearful mistake was never made concerning the things of the present life, than is made by the young man who, having graduated, imagines that he has completed his education.

Of all classes of men none stand in such need of a thorough trained mind, as the gospel minister. It is not only his business to instruct his fellows in the way of everlasting life, but he will be brought in contact with infidelity and errors of every form, and he needs a training that will fit him to grapple with them.

Whatever advantages may be possessed by other Institutions for securing these results, Mississippi College possesses them in a pre-eminent degree. And of these we mention the very high moral excellence of the Institution, and the pure religious atmosphere by which it is surrounded.

If our brethren would know more of the workings of Mississippi College in the education of ministers, they could realize more fully the value and necessity of such an Institution. While it is in nowise a theological school yet we can triumphantly point to the grand array of faithful ministers that it has furnished to waive the banner of gospel truth over our land—two of whom we have with us in the present meeting of our body.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. MASON, Chairman.

Adopted.

Report on the Work of Executive Board.

Bro. Moderator: The Executive Board of your Association would state that owing to the meagre amount of facts in our

possession, we are at a loss for material out of which to make a full report.

The following reports of missionary labor were given:

Elder E. T. Dendy, 14 days at Rocky Point.

Elder R. G. Barrett, 4 days at Rocky Point.

Elder A. J. Cockroft, 3 days at Rocky Point.

Elder T. E. Morris, 5 days at Lyle's School-house.

Elder R. E. Melvin, 11 sermons at Carthage.

These are about all the facts now at hand. Your Board recommend that we, as an Association, co-operate in mission work with the State Mission Board of our State Convention.

We would further state, that our previous meetings have been both interesting and improving, and would earnestly solicit the churches to give more attention to our meetings, and thus let us have a full attendance. We feel that great good has been already accomplished, but hope to achieve far greater results by a hearty co-operation of all the churches in the bounds of our Association.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. COCKROFT.

Adopted.

Report on Obituaries.

Bro. Moderator: Your Committee on Obituaries would state that seven deaths are reported in the letters sent from the several churches. One from each of the following:

Thomastown, Stump Bridge, Pleasant Hill, New Prospect, Mt. Zion; Good Hope, (Madison) and Damascus.

Respectfully submitted,

R. G. BARRETT, Chairman.

Adopted.

Report on Queries and Requests.

Bro. Moderator: We, your Committee, would report that three churches have asked that this Association meet with them next year, viz: Canaan, Mount Zion, and Landmark. We would recommend that the next meeting be held with Landmark church, three or four miles south-west of Red Dog Bridge, Deake county, Mississippi.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. MELVIN, Chairman.

Adopted.

On Finance.

Your committee on Finance report as follows:

The amount sent up by the churches for Associational purposes, \$57 15. Home Missions, \$17 00. Foreign Missions, \$16 35. Ministerial Education, \$1 25. Total amount \$91 75. We have examined the Treasurer's report, and find it correct. Adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

THOS. LOCKALA, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

T. J. DENSON, Treasurer,

In Account with Harmony Association,

1880.

DR.

To am't received of former Treasurer, Graves.....	\$74 15
" " " of Home Missions.....	10 00

Total amount.....	\$84 15
-------------------	---------

1880.

CR.

By am't paid for clerk's fees.....	\$10 00
" " " Wm. McMurtray for Mission labor.....	4 50
" " " W. R. Graves, Treasurer's fee.....	5 00
" " " Lockala for Mission labor.....	1 50
" " " R. E. Melvin for Mission labor.....	10 00
" " " for printing minutes, and postage...	42 00

Total amount.....	\$73 00
-------------------	---------

Amount on hand.....	\$11 15
---------------------	---------

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. DENSON.

Cash Contributions.

For Ministerial Education for benefit of Bro. Tully Barrett.

R. E. Melvin.....	\$5 00	D. A. Ellington.....	\$5 00
W.-R. Lacey.....	5 00	W. J. Miles.....	5 00
Smaller sums amounting to.....			10 75

Total.....	\$30 75
------------	---------

Contributions by Subscription.

(For same object.)

W. W. Stewart.....	\$5 00	A. C. Mason.....	\$5 00
J. T. Massey.....	\$2 50	Mt. Carmel Church..	\$10 00
Damascus Church.....	5 00	Good Hope, Leake..	5 00
New Hope.....	5 00	Jerusalem.....	5 00
Center Hill.....	5 00	New Prospect.....	5 00
New Providence.....	10 00	Mrs. Mary Wright..	1 00
Mrs. Sarah Gamble.....	1 00	Mrs. Sanders.....	1 00
Mrs. Margaret Gross.....	1 00	Mrs. Sarah Miles....	1 00
Mrs. Julia Moss.....	50	Mrs. Wright.....	2 00

Total amount in subscriptions to be paid soon,.....\$70 00

Subscriptions for State Missions.

The messengers of the following churches agreed to try to raise the amounts annexed to the names of their Churches, for State Missions, which are to be paid during the Associational year, viz;

Mt. Zion.....	\$10 00	New Hope.....	\$5 00
Canaan.....	10 00	New Prospect.....	5 00
Center Hill.....	10 00	New Providence.....	10 00
Damascus.....	5 00	Pensacola.....	10 00
Good Hope, Leake.....	10 00	Pleasant Hill.....	10 00
Good Hope, Madison, 10 00		Stump Bridge.....	25 00
Mars Hill.....	10 00	Thomastown.....	15 00
Mt. Carmel.....	10 00	Jerusalem.....	10 00
Landmark.....			15 00

Individual Subscriptions.

A. C. Mason.....	\$5 00	Dr. B. N. Ward.....	\$2 50
J. L. Shackelford.....	2 50	Wm. Merchant.....	50
S. Wiggins.....			1 00

Total amount in subscriptions for State Missions,....\$191 50

Cash Contributions for State Missions.

W. R. Lacey.....	\$10 00	W. R. Graves	\$5 00
R. G. Barrett	5 00	T. E. Morris.....	5 00
W. J. Miles ..	5 00	J. C. Fulton	2 00
Isaac Treadwell.....	2 50	J. L. McFadden.....	2 50
Miscellaneous collections amounting to.....	23 80		

Total amount cash collections..... \$60 80

Resolutions.

Resolved, That the ministers who have performed missionary work, receive their pro rata shares of the \$28 15, mission fund, which shall be apportioned according to the number of days devoted to that work by them respectively.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Clerk and Treasurer be allowed \$15 00 for his services, and that he draw on the Treasury for the same.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered this church and community for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained the delegates and visitors attending this Association.

Adopted.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with Landmark Baptist Church, about three or four miles South-west of Red-dog Bridge, Leake county, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in October, 1881.

T. E. MORRIS, Moderator.

A. J. COCKROFT, Clerk.

\$5 00
10 00
5 00
5 00
5 00
1 00
1 00
1 00
2 00
70 00

try to
es, for
ational

\$5 00
5 00
10 00
10 00
10 00
25 00
15 00
10 00
15 00

\$2 50
50
1 00

191 50

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

NAMES.

R. G. Barrett,
W. S. Rushing,
T. E. Morris,
S. Green,

NAMES.

R. E. Melvin,
D. A. Ellington,
E. T. Dendy,
A. J. Coekroft.

LICENTIATES.

J. N. Newbern,
E. B. Ellington,

J. T. Massey.
Tully Barrett.



Statistical Table for the Year 1880.

CHURCHES	POST OFFICES	DELEGATES' NAMES	PASTORS	Received by Baptism	Total in Fellowship	Number of Minutes
Bethesda.....	Camden.....	A letter of dismission was granted, as requested.	D. L. Wilson.....	.....	60	15
Beulah.....	Centre.....	E. S. Johnson, F. Dicken.....	D. A. Ellington.....	.....	50	15
Canaan.....	Kirkwood.....	D. A. Ellington, W. W. Stewart.....	A. J. Cockcroft.....	4	80	15
Centre Hill.....	Conway.....	Eld. A. J. Cockcroft, J. F. Biggart, W. S. Cockcroft.....	D. A. Ellington.....	6	41	20
Damascus.....	Millville.....	D. Casper, G. P. Brown.....	T. E. Morris.....	1	64	20
Good Hope, Leake.....	Good Hope.....	Eld. T. E. Morris, H. Collier.....	R. G. Barrett.....	3	85	20
Good Hope, Mad.....	Kirkwood.....	Eld. R. G. Barrett, J. N. Barrett.....	A. C. Mason.....	.....	53	20
Landmark.....	Forest Grove.....	Eld. A. C. Mason, D. G. Johnson.....	R. G. Barrett.....	.....	116	50
Mc Carmel.....	Edinburg.....	J. L. Shackelford.....	O. F. Breland.....	14	78	30
Mt. Zion.....	High Hill.....	J. N. Newbern, W. W. Thomas.....	W. S. Rushing.....	4	55	18
Mars Hill.....	Edinburg.....	Eld. W. S. Rushing, T. G. Ward, E. Tucker.....	W. P. Dorrell.....	2	38	15
New Hope.....	Walnut Grove.....	E. T. Barnett, W. Y. Harper.....	S. Green.....	14	90	25
New Prospect.....	Carthage.....	E. J. McKay.....	R. G. Barrett.....	.....	25	10
New Providence.....	Carthage.....	Eld. E. T. Dendy, W. D. Gross, W. J. Miles.....	E. T. Dendy.....	3	25	15
Pensacola.....	Carthage.....	W. R. Lacy, S. Wiggins. (Not represented by letter.).....	W. P. Dorrell.....	.....	50	15
Pleasant Hill.....	Carthage.....	J. T. Massey, J. C. McBeth.....	T. J. Bailey.....	.....	44	12
Salem.....	Coosa.....	Eld. Thomas Lockala, W. I. Phillips.....	R. G. Barrett.....	10	64	15
Stump Bridge.....	Canton.....	J. H. Hickman, W. P. Wallace.....	W. B. Butler.....	1	85	20
Thomastown.....	Thomastown.....	Eld. R. E. Melvin, R. J. Bell.....	Total.....	62	1084	350
Jerusalem.....	Ludlow.....	T. J. Denson.....				

Richard
Miss

